

JUL 16 2008

- 2 -

Application 10/534,848
Amendment filed 07/16/08
RE: Office Action 04/14/08

Amendments to the Specification

5

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4 line 11 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

10 Another object of the present invention is a storage
element for a brake disc, characterized in that the
said suspension means is formed by at least one
shoulder connecting a first portion of the brake disc
and a smaller-diameter second portion of longitudinal
axis, the ~~said~~ shoulder being of width such that the
15 shoulder collaborates with a radially external end of
the ~~said~~ first or second face of the brake disc.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4 line 20 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

20

Another subject of the present invention is an element
characterized in that the shoulder is made of at least
~~two~~ two parts arranged in one and the same plane and
formed by angular sectors distributed, advantageously
25 uniformly, over the periphery of the housing.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4 line 32 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

30 Another subject of the present invention is an element
characterized in that each shoulder connects a larger-
diameter part to a smaller-diameter part, the ~~said~~
smaller-diameter part forming the next larger-diameter
part, and in that each larger-diameter part has an
35 axial dimension along the axis at least equal to half
the distance separating the first and second faces of
the brake disc it accommodates.

- 3 -

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6 line 15 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Another subject of the present invention is an element
5 characterized in that the ~~said~~ means are grooves extending upwards in the direction of stacking on rims of the storage element.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6 line 20 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Another subject of the present invention is an element
characterized in that the ~~said~~ means are formed of
blocks arranged centrally between several housings,
15 advantageously between four housings, and bearing surfaces projecting from the rims towards the inside of the ~~said~~ element for an element able to be stacked on the ~~said~~ element.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6 line 28 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Another subject of the present invention is an element
characterized in that the ~~said~~ blocks are formed as an
25 integral part of the housings.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 8 line 6 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Figures 2a and 2b show a first exemplary embodiment of a storage element for a brake disc according to the present invention comprising a cylindrical housing 13 of axis X2 equipped at an upper first longitudinal end 24 with an opening 14 for inserting the disc into the
30 housing 13 ~~of~~ with an internal diameter D14 at least equal to the external diameter D7 of the brake disc and bordered by a wall 16 extending as far as a lower
35 second longitudinal end or base 18.

- 4 -

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 9 line 31 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

5 The distance between the shoulder 15 and the end or top
24 14 of the housing 13 is advantageously greater than
the dimension P1 along the axis X1 of the brake disc,
so as to prevent the brake disc from protruding above
the storage element. In the example depicted, the first
portion 3, ~~in the example depicted [sic]~~, does not
10 protrude beyond the the opening 14 in any individual
housing 13 in the storage element and does not
therefore run the risk of becoming damaged. In
addition, when several storage elements are stacked up,
it is the storage element and it is not the discs that
15 bear the load of the other elements, but the element
itself.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 4 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

20 Furthermore, as depicted in Figure 2c, the storage
element advantageously comprises several housings 13
for brake discs, for example six or twelve housings 13
distributed uniformly in ~~an~~ a storage element in the
25 shape of a rectangular parallelepiped.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 10 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

30 The storage elements also advantageously comprise means
19 allowing several storage elements to be stacked up
on top of each other. Where necessary, a same number
may be used for E2 as for E1 with ' or a added in the
drawing. For example, the means 19 as best illustrated
35 in Figures 2b and 2c, includes a wall 116 that extends
from the lower base or end 118 to an upper end 124 with
are formed by rims or lips 125 on the upper end 124
that surround an opening 114, the rims 125 which are

- 5 -

sufficiently rigid and tall to allow several storage elements to be stacked.

5 Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 20 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

10 Advantageously, the rims 125 are produced in such a way that they can withstand the stacking of several storage elements. For example, a first storage element E1 can be stacked on a same second storage element E2, and allow a same third storage element (not illustrated) to be stacked on the first storage element E1, thus allowing a batch of several storage elements to be transported.

15

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 28 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

20 The rims 125 are equipped with a reinforcing ~~grooves~~ surface 121 distributed around the periphery of the element so as to allow the element to be self-supporting.

25 Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 37 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

30 The means 19 ~~comprises~~ also includes at least two support blocks 23 (only one of which is shown) arranged respectively in the central part of a region delimited by four housings 13, the blocks 23 ~~{lacuna}~~ advantageously being formed with the housings 13 as an integral part of a storage element with the housings 13. ~~An~~ A storage element comprising ~~[6]~~ six housings is advantageously equipped with two blocks and ~~an~~ a storage element comprising twelve housings (13) ~~is~~ would be equipped with five ~~or six~~ blocks.

- 6 -

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 6 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

5 The rims 125 ~~are also equipped with surfaces 21~~
~~projecting project~~ at right angles to the plane of the
~~rims~~ wall 116 and towards the inside of the storage
element while the reinforcing surface 121 extend from
the rims 125 back toward and connect with the wall 116.
10 The rims 125 form and forming a bearing surface for one
~~the element E1 to be stacked on top of another element~~
E2.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 12 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

15 The blocks 23 also make it easy to grasp hold of the
elements, having, for example, a shape making it easier
for a fitter or a robot to grasp hold of these
elements.

20

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 23 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

25 Figures 3a and 3b depict a third exemplary embodiment
of a storage element according to the present
invention, this also being the preferred exemplary
embodiment in which each housing 13 has at least a
first and a second shoulder 151, 152 which shoulders
are arranged respectively in two parallel planes Q1, Q2
30 offset in the direction of the axis X2 to form two
steps defining a staircase. The external diameter
Dext152 of the second shoulder ~~151~~ 152 is equal to the
internal diameter Dint151 of the first shoulder 151.
The internal diameters Dint151, Dint152 of the first
35 and second shoulder are chosen respectively so that
they are slightly smaller than the largest external
diameter of a first and of a second brake disc of
different diameters and so that the internal diameter
D151 roughly correspond ~~to~~ to the largest external

- 7 -

diameter of the second brake disc. This embodiment advantageously allows just one type of storage element to be used for two different types of disc.

- 5 Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 25 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Figure 4 shows a fourth exemplary embodiment of a storage element according to the present invention, in
10 which the housing comprises at least two support surfaces 115 arranged in one and the same plane Q perpendicular to the axis X2. In the example depicted, the housing 13 comprises ~~three~~ five support surfaces 115, formed of angular sectors distributed
15 advantageously angularly, around the periphery of the annular housing and of a width ~~L115~~ L151 that is very much smaller than the width of the friction tracks of the brake disc.

- 20 Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 36 and replace with the following new Paragraph.

Figure 5 shows a fifth exemplary embodiment of a storage element in which the housing 13 is formed by a
25 ~~frust~~ cone frustum, with the taper being directed towards the lower part of the housing so that the peripheral end of the brake disc rests on the frustoconical wall 16' that defines a variable diameter shoulder 15'. It is thus possible to use this type of
30 storage for a great many brake discs of different diameters.